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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

ABOVE-NORMAL RAINFALL IN USSR FAVORS GROWING CROPS,
COMPLICATES GRAIN HARVEST

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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL											
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION						
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<u>Operation</u>	<u>Odesskaya</u>	<u>Izmail'shaya</u>
Grain crops cut	18	32
Grain crops harvested by combine	14	37
Straw collected and hauled from fields	10	30

By 29 July, harvesting of sainfoin had been completed in Odesskaya Oblast. Many kolkhozes of the oblast harvested more than 10 quintals of seed per hectare.(6)

Moldavian SSR

By 9 July, hot weather was causing grain crops to ripen rapidly. Dry grain was being delivered directly from the combines to the procurement points.(3)

Georgian SSR

Sovkhozes of the republic have grown a good grain crop. As a result of much rain in June, wheat which had reached a height of 2 meters began to lodge under the weight of the heads. Lodged fields are being harvested first.(7)

In Tbilisskaya Oblast, 70,000 more hectares are to be harvested by combine than in 1951.(8)

Armenian SSR

By 19 July, mass harvesting was in progress in kolkhozes of more than 50 percent of the rayons of the republic.(9)

RSFSR

By 30 July, mass harvesting was in progress on fields of the central chernozem region and in the southeastern part of the republic. However, progress was not satisfactory. In Saratovskaya Oblast, for example, harvesting was not keeping pace with ripening of the grain; as of 25 July, the plan for combine harvesting of grain crops had been met only 3 percent. Harvesting was proceeding slowly also in Kuybyshev, Stalingrad, and Kursk Oblasts.(10)

By 31 July, harvesting of grain crops had begun in many kolkhozes of Tatarskaya ASSR. In Kemerovskaya Oblast, selective harvesting of rye was in progress. It was reported from Kostromskaya Oblast that selective harvesting of winter rye had begun there.

In Kalininskaya Oblast, MTS will harvest more than two-thirds of the grass seed, using self-propelled combines; the rest of the area to be harvested for seed will be reaped with horse-drawn machines.

In Velikolukskaya Oblast, selective pulling of flax has begun. About 1,000 pullers and combines will be used in the flax harvest; 75 percent of the flax area will be harvested by machine. Initial processing of flax will be 90 percent mechanized.(11)

By 20 July, many kolkhozes of Bashkirskaya ASSR were successfully procuring fodder for collectivized livestock.(1)

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More than 90 percent of all grain crops sown in Chkalovskaya Oblast are to be harvested by combine.(12)

Sovkhozes in the Don region have grown a good crop, but in many areas the grain has lodged after much rain accompanied by wind. The fields are also weedy.

By 24 July, grain crops were ripening in kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Irkutskaya Oblast. Reaping will begin within a few days; 75 percent of the sown area is to be harvested by combine.(7)

In Kuybyshevskaya Oblast, the weather is hot and dry. Grain is ripening rapidly everywhere, but the harvest is not keeping pace; as of 20 July, only 1,200 hectares had been reaped.(13)

Reaping of grain crops had begun in Molotovskaya Oblast by 24 July. Combines were entering the fields.(7)

In Mordovskaya ASSR, spring sowing was better organized in 1952 than in 1951. Early grain crops were sown in 5 days. Wheat was sown on 20,000 more hectares than in 1951. The plans for sowing of sugar beets, fodder root crops, and annual and perennial grasses were exceeded. Crops were in good condition as of 9 July.(3)

The grain harvest had begun in the southern portion of Orlovskaya Oblast by 24 July.(14)

After much rainfall, warm, sunny weather had returned to Rostovskaya Oblast by 19 July. Grain was ripening in all parts of the oblast; harvesting of winter and spring grain crops will be carried out simultaneously.(15)

By 24 July, selective reaping of grain crops had begun in sovkhozes of Saratovskaya Oblast. In contrast to past years, harvesting began almost simultaneously on both right and left banks of the Volga.(7)

By 19 July, mass harvesting of grain crops was in progress in Stavropol'skiy Krai.(15)

Weather conditions this year have caused almost simultaneous ripening of winter and spring grain crops in Tambovskaya Oblast. In the southern portion of the oblast, selective harvesting of both had begun by 20 July.(1) Harvesting had reached mass proportions in most of the oblast by 26 July. Sunny, dry weather was promoting rapid ripening of grain and drying on the threshing floors prior to delivery to the state.(16)

By 25 July, one area after another in the Volga Region had begun harvesting grain crops. Grain was ripening almost simultaneously in the southern and northern portions of the region.

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the region have grown a good crop, especially of spring grains and particularly of spring wheat. The cool weather during the spring and early summer together with recurring rains during this time caused grains to grow vigorously and promoted filling of the heads.

The harvest began somewhat later than usual. The mild spring and early summer weather delayed ripening of both winter and spring grains, but ripening of winter crops was delayed more than that of spring crops. The delayed ripening of winter crops is explained by the fact that, due to dryness last fall in some areas of the region, winter grains to some extent did not sprout until spring. Thus, the interval between ripening of the two crops was shortened from the usual 12-14 days to 6-7 days. This means that the winter grain crop must be harvested in 5-6 working days.

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Other problems facing the harvesters are weedy fields and rank stem growth. In some areas of Saratov and Stalingrad oblasts, winter rye stands 135-140 centimeters tall and spring wheat up to 95 centimeters tall. This immoderate height of the grain will also complicate straw collection and plowing of winter fallow.(14)

In Vologodskaya Oblast, 112 rural hydroelectric power plants have been built by kolkhoz workers of the oblast during the last few years.(17)

By 26 July, rainy weather had been replaced by dry, hot weather in Voronezhskaya Oblast. Grain was then ripening rapidly and sovkhoses had begun harvesting in the southern part of the oblast.(18)

Kazakh SSR

At the end of 6 months, the 1952 milk delivery plan had been fulfilled only 29 percent by the Ministry of State Farms Kazakh SSR. Despite an increase in the number of head of dairy cows, less milk had been delivered to the state during the 6-month period than during the corresponding period 1951.(7)

Kirgiz SSR

By 23 July, 400 combines were operating on the grain fields in kolkhozes of Frunzenskaya Oblast.(5)

SOURCES

1. Sotsialisticheskoye Zemledeliye, 20 Jul 52
2. Sovkhoznyaya Gazeta, 12 Jul 52
3. Sotsialisticheskoye Zemledeliye, 9 Jul 52
4. Ibid., 18 Jul 52
5. Ibid., 24 Jul 52
6. Ibid., 29 Jul 52
7. Sovkhoznyaya Gazeta, 24 Jul 52
8. Sotsialisticheskoye Zemledeliye, 6 Jul 52
9. Sovetskoye Khlopkovodstvo, 19 Jul 52
10. Sotsialisticheskoye Zemledeliye, 30 Jul 52
11. Ibid., 31 Jul 52
12. Ibid., 8 Jul 52
13. Ibid., 23 Jul 52
14. Ibid., 25 Jul 52
15. Sovkhoznyaya Gazeta, 19 Jul 52
16. Sotsialisticheskoye Zemledeliye, 26 Jul 52
17. Ibid., 22 Jul 52
18. Sovkhoznyaya Gazeta, 26 Jul 52

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